

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant Representative, Mr. Scott Lundberg, on May 29, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Regarding claim 46,

46. (Currently amended) The remote circuit of claim 45, wherein a remote unit slot adjacent the protection remote unit slot is coupled to the protection switching controller slot to provide power when the power in the ~~redundant~~ protection remote unit slot fails.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-40, 42-47 and 49-70 are allowed over prior art.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fail to teach or suggest fairly, with respect to claims 1 and 8, management unit coupled to control the multiplexer and the remote circuit, the management unit having a memory to store switching data, with respect to claim 11, a controller card coupled to control the plurality of relays, wherein the control card is coupled to receive control signals from management unit, with respect to claim 22, the remote circuit having a switch relay for each

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standard transmission path, each switch relay is coupled to an associated standard transmission path, each switch relay having a first position to provide a connection to a subscriber and a second position to provide a connection to a redundant transmission path, with respect to claim 29, a management unit to control the output of the multiplexer and the relays, wherein when the management unit detects a line unit coupled to a faulty transmission line an output of the multiplexer assigned to the line unit coupled to the faulty transmission line is detected to an associated redundant line unit instead, with respect to claim 36, automatic protection switching bus coupled between the protection remote unit slot and the protection switching controller slot, with respect to claim 45, protection switching controller slot is positioned adjacent the protection remote unit slot, and further wherein the protection switching controller slot receives its power from protection remote unit slot, with respect to claim 47, replacing faulty transmission path with a plurality of relays at a remote circuit, with respect to claim 57, coupling the redundant transmission path to an end portion of the standard transmission path with errors at the remote circuit, wherein the signals directed to the standard transmission path with errors are routed around the standard transmission path, with respect to claim 66, a remote circuit including a remote protection remote unit card having a protection remote unit removable coupled in the protection remote unit slot and selectively coupling a protection switching controller in a protection controller slot, and selectively coupling a protection remote unit in a protection remote slot.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prenell P. Jones whose telephone number is 571-272-3180. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Wing Chan can be reached on 571-272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Wing F. Chan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2619
6/3/08
Prenell P. Jones

May 29, 2008